

LITERARY NEWS, VIEWS AND CRITICISM

NEW BOOKS.

Continued from Tenth Page.

to him it there is far too much of their broken English. The whites also are plain Western folk, but so far as the hero's disposition is concerned the scene might be anywhere. The story does not come up to the level of some of the author's earlier incidents, but the author has written the incidents are those of the scene, the hero is a nuisance and the Indians too outspoken. It is told pleasantly, however; there are nice people in it and it holds the reader's interest.

A number of men who have been successful in business tell the stories of their lives in Mr. Edward Mott Woolley's "The Junior Partner" (E. P. Dutton and Company). In most instances they relate the same experience of finding themselves in a rut and deciding to do differently from others. If some of them were to try these things in most offices they would have a rude awakening. There is much sound advice in the book and some intelligent criticism of the way things are done. We have found it difficult, however, to become interested in these business tales, for has the running comment of the author made it easier. The love story forced into the succession of tales is preposterously commonplace.

Eight capital short stories, written in delightful English, which was more common half a century back than it is now, will be found in Mr. John Buchan's "The Moon Landreth" (Sturgis and Walton Company). Some deal with queer possibilities in history, some have a slight touch of the supernatural; they are all made to seem probable, however, so that the reader will follow the writer's imagination with pleasure. The verses which follow each story are apparently inspired by the author's admiration for Mr. Kipling's later work. Mr. Buchan can write, he can tell a story well, and we hope to have more good work from him.

In "The Red Cross Girl" (Charles Scribner's Sons) we have a collection of seven magazine stories by Mr. Richard Harding Davis. They are readable enough and come up to the rather low standard Mr. Davis has set for himself since he has felt sure of his public. His plots are slight and not especially original and after he has started he does not seem to care in how slipshod a way he winds up the story. Whatever ambitions he may have had when he began his literary career, and he has died out. He has acquired the knack of turning out a story that can be read easily and seems to be content with that.

Another Whistler Book.

To the mass of literature that is being written about Whistler Mr. Thomas R. Way makes his contribution in "Memories of James McNeill Whistler, the Artist" (Doubleday, Page and Company), a volume that collectors of books on Whistler will probably wish to add to their set, even if the additional information contributed be of slight value. Mr. Way is the son of the English lithographer who handled Whistler's engravings in that form of his art and from his boyhood on saw a good deal of the artist at work. He recites his impressions, which are minute, though not particularly observed in his important and the reader will be able from them to follow closely Whistler's career in lithography.

Mr. Way's recollections, unfortunately, are tinged somewhat by prejudices; he objects to Whistler's being regarded as an American and to his works being acquired by Americans, and he recalls the quarrel Whistler had with his father and the law suit that arose from it, and the artist's estrangement with himself at the end of his life. He tells pretty directly what he saw himself of Whistler's work, so that the reader will be able to follow his experiments in lithography; but Mr. Way's interest is more in the personal character, especially as he passes over matters that have been spoken of in other books. There are many illustrations; the best are those by Mr. Way himself, the original Whistler sketches being of the slightest kind, the sort of things that are properly consigned to the waste basket, like many of the Whistler "drawings" that are reproduced in the books about him. Collectors, we imagine, will want even these.

Fighting Ships of the World.

The oblong album on "Fighting Ships" (Sampson, Low, Marston and Company, London) which Mr. Fred T. Jane has been issuing for fifteen years past, with its statistics, pictures, plans and useful and interesting information, has proved useful and interesting in many ways. It gives a summary account of all the warships, efficient and otherwise, of all the Powers, with the detailed information regarding construction, armament, engine power and speed that is looked for whenever anything happens to a vessel, and also pictures of every vessel or type, with the deck plans. It has also tables that enable comparisons to be made quickly, information regarding the flags and uniforms of every navy, lists of sea terms in various languages, silhouettes of all the vessels, other matters of nautical interest and very comprehensive indexes.

The volume for 1912 has been revised officially by each nation concerned and contains authoritative statements about the vessels in existence, those under construction and those really projected. The nations are arranged according to their present effective sea power; the order this year is Great Britain, Germany, the United States, Japan, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia. The list includes, however, the navies of the smaller countries as well, down to Bulgaria, Siam, Liberia, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Paraguay, Cuba and Haiti. The technical articles are gradually decreasing in number and length. In Mr. C. de Grave Sella's interesting review of the progress of naval engineering, however, the question of the battleship is discussed, while Chief Constructor Vittorio Cuniberti of the Italian navy gives his views briefly on the battleships of the future.

Tyrol and Switzerland.

In "Tramps Through Tyrol" (Little, Brown and Company), by Mr. Frederick Wolcott Stoddard, we have a work of quite German thoroughness, a real help to all who visit the country or wish to know about it. The author likes the land and the people; he has spent years in Tyrol, he is interested in sport and in mountain climbing, in history and traditions and has tried to tell all he knows in this volume. No place is too remote for him to guide his readers to, and when he has described it he relates what the historical associations are, what legends are

attached to it, and if there are local festivals or peculiar customs, as is often the case, he tells about them. His book has all the accuracy of a gazetteer and a great deal more interest. There are many excellent illustrations from photographs, some of which are colored. The book should attract visitors to a very attractive country, much of which is neglected by ordinary travellers who flock to the few fashionable resorts.

The volume on "Switzerland in Snow and Sunshine" (Little, Brown and Company), by Edward B. D'Auvergne, is more commonplace. The author is an artist and supplies four pretty colored pictures and a few wash drawings, trusting to photography for his other illustrations. He chats pleasantly and entertainingly of many places that nearly everybody has visited and about which many others have written before. It is a book that people who have visited Switzerland will enjoy, as it brings back memories of what they have seen very attractively.

Other Books.

The popular articles on legal matters first published in the magazines by Mr. Arthur Train are now collected in a volume called "Courts, Criminals and the Camorra" (Charles Scribner's Sons). Like similar articles on psychology and scientific matters, they give an exaggerated importance to matters that attract public attention for the moment and combine a certain amount of fact with inferences which may or may not be justifiable. Readers are unfortunately prone to accept as evidence the statements of persons who have some familiarity with the facts and should be careful in the expression of generalizations from them. The more interesting of the articles are those on the Camorra, the trial at Viterbo and the criminals among the Italians in America.

The title of Mr. Lucy Collier-Smith's "Modern Italian Literature" (Little, Brown and Company) arouses hopes which are dashed at once on opening the volume. Though small, it is large enough to hold a satisfactory account of the literature of the last half century, but the author begins with the sixteenth century. He describes the whole dreary period when what was written in Italian meant little or nothing, he repeats the names and statements that dull the later pages of the literary histories, hardly distinguishing the few that deserve to live from the mass that may as well be forgotten. He does give a chapter, however, to Carducci and another to an incomplete and unsatisfactory summary of the literature of yesterday.

Not the famous Alexis, whose biography appears in the introduction, but his grandson, Nicolas Soyer, the apostle of the paper bag, is responsible for "Soyer's Standard Cookery" (Sturgis and Walton Company), which, as the title page tells us truly, is "a complete guide to the art of cooking dainty, varied and economical dishes for the household." The recipes are clear and precise, even the required temperature of the oven is marked in many cases; their number is such that it would take a lifetime to try them all, and the author's reputation is a guarantee for their palatability. Mr. Soyer includes his paper bag recipes among the rest, and even provides special Jewish dishes.

The International Critical Commentary on the Holy Scriptures, under the general editorship of Dr. C. A. Briggs of the Union Theological Seminary, Dr. S. R. Driver of Oxford and Dr. A. Plummer of Durham, which Charles Scribner's Sons are publishing, is progressing rapidly. The latest volume issued, completing the commentary on the minor prophets, is by various hands: "A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on Hagai, Zechariah, Malachi and Jonah." The part relating to Hagai and Zechariah, which takes up the larger portion of the volume, has been done by Prof. Hinkley G. Mitchell, D. D., now of Tufts College, a man who has suffered for his scientific convictions. The commentary on Malachi is by Dr. John Meritt Powis Smith of the University of Chicago, that on Jonah by Dr. Julius A. Bewer of the Union Theological Seminary. The last two parts are pagged separately. The series embodies the most recent studies on the Bible, expounded by the best qualified English-speaking scholars.

The anthology of "Poems of Country Life" (Sturgis and Walton Company), made by Mr. George S. Bryan, is very interesting. It differs from the majority of such compilations in that the author has not relied on his predecessors, but has sought out his poems by himself. He has brought in much good verse that other anthologies have passed by, a fair proportion by living writers, and among the authors Americans predominate.

The colored illustrations to the edition of "The Poems of John Keats" that appears in the "Burlington Library" (Little, Brown and Company) are pretty. The page, however, is not attractive, though the type is unusually clear.

After ten years Mr. Sereno S. Pratt's "The Work of Wall Street" (Appleton's) still remains the best description of the financial system in this country. A new edition has been prepared, embodying the many changes in methods and in legislation of the later years, and the revision has been so thorough and the additions so many that it is virtually a new book. It is the standard work on the subject for the specialist in economics as well as for the general reader.

Directions for a great variety of simple games, old and new, are given in Mr. William E. Cheney's "Home Entertaining" (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Boston). Most of them call for no appliances; where any are required they are of the simplest kind, things that are found in every house. The games will amuse grown up people as well as children.

A brief account of his investigation of "The Montessori System" (Harpers) is given by Dr. Theodore L. Smith, who approves of it highly. His description of the results is interesting; for the methods the reader must consult Dr. Montessori's own book.

The Welfare Committee of the American Iron and Steel Institute has issued a four page circular on "Flies, a Cause of Disease," which it has had translated into the languages of its employees. A pamphlet containing these translations has come to us and it is interesting to note the number and variety of the languages, English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Swedish, Finnish, Bohemian, Slavish, Polish, Russian, Slovenian, Croatian, Serbian, Hungarian, Rumanian, Lithuanian, Greek and what we take to be Arabic or Syriac. Singularly enough no circular in Hebrew or Yiddish seems to have been needed to warn the Jews against the demon of flies.

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Books Received.

"Intimate Memoirs of Napoleon III." 2 vols. Baron D'Ambas. (Little, Brown and Company).

"Sun Yat Sen and the Awakening of China." James Cantlie and Sheridan Fleming. (H. R. Howell Company).

"Lords and Ladies of the Italian Lakes." Edgumbe Staley. (Little, Brown and Company).

"The Hoosier Valley: Its Legends and History." Grace Greylock Niles. (G. P. Putnam's Sons).

"A Polish Battle with Napoleon." G. L. de St. M. Watson. (Little, Brown and Company).

"The Man Farthest Down." Booker T. Washington. (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"The Preliminaries." Cornelia A. P. Comer. (Houghton Mifflin Company).

"Cavaliers." Grant Richards. (Houghton Mifflin Company).

"Daphne in the Fatherland." (Brentano's).

"The Woman of Il." Mark Lee Luther. (Harpers).

"Aurelie." Arthur Sherburne Hardy. (Harpers).

"City of Light." W. L. George. (Brentano's).

"Mrs. Ames." E. F. Benson. (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"One of the Multitudes." George Acon. (Dodd, Mead and Company).

"The Squire's Daughter." Archibald Marshall. (Dodd, Mead and Company).

"The Wind Before the Dawn." Dell H. Munger. (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"Between Two Thieves." Richard Dehan. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"The White Shield." Myrtle Reed. (G. P. Putnam's Sons).

"The Mountain Divide." Frank H. Spearman. (Charles Scribner's Sons).

"A Whistling Woman." Robert Hallifax. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"Lifted Masks." Susan Glaspell. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"Miss Wealthy, Deputy Sheriff." Elizabeth Neff. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"Eve's Other Children." Lucille Baldwin Van Slyke. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"David Dunne." Belle Kanaris Mandates. (Rand, McNally and Company, Chicago).

"Herself." Ethel Sidgwick. (Small, Maynard and Company, Boston).

"Froisne." Ethel Sidgwick. (Small, Maynard and Company).

"The Gentleman." Ethel Sidgwick. (Small, Maynard and Company).

"The Sanctuary." Maud Howard Peterson. (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Boston).

"Cupid on Route." Ralph Henry Barbour. (Richard G. Badger, Boston).

"The Contralto." Roger M. Carew. (Richard G. Badger, Boston).

"The Moonlight Sonata." Johan Nordling. (Sturgis and Walton Company).

"The Calhoun Mystery." K. and Hesketh Prichard. (Sturgis and Walton Company).

"The Mythological One." Oliver Herford. (Charles Scribner's Sons).

"The Isacort." Eden Philpotts. (John Lane Company).

"Five Little Plays." Alfred Sutro. (Brentano's).

"Plays of Anton Tchekoff." Translated by Marian Fell. (Charles Scribner's Sons).

"The Christ Were King." Albert E. Waffie. D. D. (The Griffith and Howlands Press, Philadelphia).

"Unseen Empire." David Starr Jordan. (American Unitarian Association, Boston).

"Royal Auction Bridge." E. F. Foster. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"The Spirit of Christmas." Arthur H. Gleason. (Frederick A. Stokes Company).

"Christian Social Reform." (William Em-

manuel, Baron von Ketteler.) George Metlake. (The Dolphin Press, Philadelphia).

"Spiritual Culture and Social Service." Charles F. Macfarland. (Fleming H. Revell Company).

"Bless Who Made Good." John T. Paria. (Fleming H. Revell Company).

"The Method of the Master." George Clarke Peck. D. D. (Fleming H. Revell Company).

"The New Journal of Marie Bashkirtseff." Translated by Mary J. Safford. (Dodd, Mead and Company).

"Sella Terra of Washington." Dr. Diomedes Carillo. (Detken and Roscholt, Naples).

"Railroad Finance." Frederick A. Cleveland and Fred Wilbur Powell. (Appleton's).

"Youth and the Race." Edgar James Swift. (Charles Scribner's Sons).

"Causes and Effects in American History." Edwin W. Morse. (Charles Scribner's Sons).

"The Christian View of the Old Testament." Frederick Carl Eiselein. Eaton and Mats, New York.

"Billy." Irene Elliott Benson. (M. A. Donohue and Company, Chicago).

"Bud and Bamboo." John Stuart Thomson. (Appleton's).

"The Son of Columbus." Molly Elliot Seawell. (Harpers).

"The Turkey Doll." Josephine Scribner Gates. (Houghton Mifflin Company).

"Boys of Other Countries." Bayard Taylor. (G. P. Putnam's Sons).

"Rowena's Happy Summer." Celia Myrover Robinson. (Rand, McNally and Company).

"Princess Rags and Tatters." Harriet T. Comstock. (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"Captain Beck's Winter Cruise." Margaret Love Sanderson. (The Reilly and Britton Company, Chicago).

"Aunt Jane's Nieces on Vacation." Edith Van Dyne. (The Reilly and Britton Company).

"The Blind Lion of the Congo." Elliott Whitney. (The Reilly and Britton Company).

"The Boy Scouts of the Air in Northern Wilds." Gordon Stuart. (The Reilly and Britton Company).

"Gulliver's Travels." Edited by Anna Tweed. (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"The Great Shakespeare. The Comedy of Errors." (Doubleday, Page and Company).

"Plane and Solid Geometry." C. A. Hart and Daniel D. Feldman. (American Book Company).

"A First Latin Reader." H. C. Nutting. Ph. D. (American Book Company).

"Pupil's Notebook and Study Outline in English History." Frances A. Smith. (American Book Company).

"Early Man in South America." Alex. Hrdlicka. (Government Printing Office, Washington).

"Report of Proceedings. Second International Brevet Congress, 1911." 2 vols. (Fred Klein Company, Chicago).

"A Little of Everything." E. V. Lucas. (Macmillans).

"Fires." Wilfrid Wilson Gibson. (Macmillans).

"The Next Religion." Israel Zangwill. (Macmillans).

"Just Before the Dawn." Robert Corneli Armstrong. (Macmillans).


"The Control of Trusts." John Bates Clark and John Maurice Clark. (Macmillans).

"The Poetical Works of William B. Yeats. Vol. II." (Macmillans).

"The Boy." Nathaniel C. Fowler, Jr. (Moffat, Yard and Company).

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